Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

earthquakes from such phenomena as the conjunctions of the planets, sun-spots, "solar electric force," "magneto-electric effects of the planets," etc., is legion; but few of these prophets seem to have caused so much apprehension as in this case. The recent anxiety in Valparaiso was caused by this same earthquake predicter prophesying the probability of a great earthquake between the hours of 2 and 5 A. M. on September 30th. The broadsides of the scientists, among them the astronomer in charge of the D. O. Mills Observatory, the head of the National Observatory, and such an authority as Count MONTESSUS DE BALLORE, head of the Chilean seismological service, ridiculing these "prophecies," seem to have had little real effect, for Chilean papers lately received state that thousands of people remained in the streets all night till driven in by a heavy rain, and that there was very general relief and rejoicing when the fated three-hour period had passed without disaster.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC ON NOVEMBER 30, 1912, AT 2:00 P. M., IN THE ROOMS OF THE SOCIETY.

Present: Directors CURTIS, AITKEN, TOWNLEY, COSTA, CRAWFORD, MCADIE, and RICHARDSON.

The minutes of the previous meeting, as printed in the *Publications*, were approved.

The following new members were elected:—

Dr. LOUIS BAZET.
Mr. WINFIELD CASSADY.
Mr. W. R. LUDEWIG.
Miss MARY PROCTOR.
The Public Library of Los Angeles.
The Library of the University of Michigan.

On motion of TOWNLEY, seconded by AITKEN, the following resolution was adopted:—

> *Resolved,* That the Committee on Publication may, in its discretion, grant on request, to the authors of long articles contributed to the *Publications*, not to exceed fifty (50) reprints, without covers, and the same shall be paid for by the Society.
>
> The Committee on Publication is hereby instructed to obtain from the printers a uniform rate on reprints, with more favorable terms than those now granted.

The following communication was received from Professor A. O. LEUSCHNER, director of the Students' Observatory of the University of California:—

Berkeley, Cal., Nov. 30, 1912.

To the President and Directors
of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific:

I would respectfully suggest that one of the next two meetings of the Society, either the January or the March meeting, be held at the Students' Observatory of the University of California, in connection with a simple commemoration celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Students' Observatory. On the occasion referred to I shall take pleasure in delivering an address on "The Work of a Students' Observatory."

Very sincerely yours,
A. O. Leuschner.

On motion of Crawford, seconded by Aitken, the suggestion of Professor Leuschner was received with thanks, and it was ordered that the meeting for March, 1913, be held in conjunction with the ceremonies cited.

On motion of Aitken, seconded by Costa, it was ordered that the observatories of Utrecht, Holland, and of Copenhagen, Denmark, be placed on the list of exchanges.

The following communications were received from the Comet-Medal Committee:—

(SEVENTY-FOURTH) AWARD OF THE DONOHOE COMET-MEDAL.

The Comet-Medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific has been awarded to Mr. Walter F. Gale, of Sydney, New South Wales, for the discovery of an unexpected comet on September 8, 1912.

Committee on the Comet-Medal:
W. W. Campbell,
Sidney D. Townley,
Heber D. Curtis.

(SEVENTY-FIFTH) AWARD OF THE DONOHOE COMET-MEDAL.

The Comet-Medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific has been awarded to Monsieur A. Borrelly, of Marseille, France, for the discovery of an unexpected comet on November 2, 1912.

Committee on the Comet-Medal:
W. W. Campbell,
Sidney D. Townley,
Heber D. Curtis.

(SEVENTY-SIXTH) AWARD OF THE DONOHOE COMET-MEDAL.

The Comet-Medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific has been awarded to Monsieur A. Schaumasse, of Nice., France, for the discovery, on October 18, 1912, of Tuttle's Comet at its present return.[1]

Committee on the Comet-Medal:
W. W. Campbell,
Sidney D. Townley,
Heber D. Curtis.

San Francisco, November 30, 1912.

---

[1] The Statutes of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific provide that the Comet-Medal shall be bestowed "for the discovery of an unexpected comet." The object found by Monsieur Schaumasse was 75° from the calculated place for Comet Tuttle, owing to the fact that perturbations had not yet been applied. To all intents and purposes, then, the discovery made by Schaumasse was that of an unexpected object, and the Committee on the Comet-Medal have so ruled. The committee considers that each case of this sort must be decided strictly on its merits, and disclaims any intention of thereby establishing any precedent for future similar discoveries.

The Secretary was instructed to have the medals for Messrs. GALE, BORRELLY, and SCHAUMASSE engraved and duly forwarded.

In this connection there was some discussion among the Directors as to the proper course to pursue in the bestowal of the medal when a comet, discovered in good faith as "unexpected," proves, on investigation, to be a known periodic. On motion of CRAWFORD, seconded by TOWNLEY, the Comet-Medal Committee was instructed to take this matter under consideration and report at some future meeting.

Thanks were voted to Professor W. E. COOKE, government astronomer of the Sydney Observatory, N. S. W., and to Professor GEORGE E. HALE, director of the Mount Wilson Solar Observatory, for the donation of valuable copies of back numbers of the *Publications*.

Adjourned.

D. S. RICHARDSON,
Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC, HELD IN CHABOT HALL, OAKLAND, ON NOVEMBER 30, 1912, AT 8:00 P. M.

By courtesy of the School Department of the City of Oakland, the hall of the Chabot Observatory was placed at the disposition of the Society for this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President CURTIS. There being no routine matters for consideration, he introduced, as the first speaker of the evening, Mr. CHARLES BURCKHALTER, director of the Chabot Observatory.

Mr. BURCKHALTER's subject was "Some Educational Stellar Photography," which was illustrated with a number of interesting lantern slides, showing very novel and unusual results.

His problem has been to photograph wide sections of the sky in such a way as to show entire constellations as they appear to the naked eye, a task beset with many difficulties. How these were partially overcome, was most pleasingly and instructively told by the popular speaker.

Dr. H. D. CURTIS, of the Lick Observatory, followed with an illustrated paper on "The Nebulæ," which held the fascinated attention of all present. What are these mysterious clouds in space? What are the laws of their being? Why are they luminous? May the far-distant ones, which no power of the telescope or of the camera can resolve into stars, be not other universes, as vast, perhaps, or vaster than our own? Dr. CURTIS did not attempt to answer the many speculations suggested by his nebulous subject, but he had no difficulty in investing it with deep interest and charm.

Adjourned.

D. S. RICHARDSON,
Secretary.